

## Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IGA-02 PC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CPR-01 SY-05

A-01 OPR-02 OC-05 CCO-00 PER-01 /065 W

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O 281205Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1039

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 0502

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, CD, US

SUBJECT: GOC DEMANDS EXPULSION TWO EMBASSY OFFICERS AND ONE  
PCV WITHIN FORTY EIGHT HOURS

1. MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS REQUESTED ON HALF HOUR'S NOTICE THAT I MEET WITH HIM AT 11 A. M. LOCAL. AFTER CURSORY INQUIRY REGARDING AMBASSADOR LITTLE'S VOYAGE TO WASHINGTON, FONMIN ASSUMED SERIOUS EXPRESSION AND DELIVERED HOMILY ON SOVEREIGNLY OF NATIONS, BOTH LARGE AND SMALL, AND NEED FOR COMPLETE RESPECT FOR THIS SOVEREIGNTY IF FRIENDLY BILATERAL RELATIONS ARE TO BE MAINTAINED. HE VERY MUCH REGRETTED TO TELL ME, THE MINISTER CONTINUED, THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD HAD "ABSOLUTE PROOF" THAT THREE AMERICANS IN CHAD HAD VIOLATED THIS PRINCIPLE OF SOVEREIGNTY BY INTERFERING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CHAD. THE THREE OFFICIALS CONCERNED, HE SAID, WERE PHILIP RINGDAHL, SECOND SECRETARY (EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER), PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER DAVID SEAL, AND PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER DONINICK PANNONE.

2. I REPLIED THAT SUMMARY DECISION OF GOC CAME AS A GREAT SHOCK AND THAT I COULD NOT ACCEPT THAT THE ACCUSATION OF INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CHAD WAS VAUD. I DEMANDED OF THE MINISTER THE REASONS BEHIND GOC'S DECISION TO EXPEL THESE THREE AMERICANS. THE MINISTER REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT AT THE  
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MOMENT IN A POSITION TO GIVE ME REASONS, ALTHOUGH HE DID SAY

THAT THERE WERE INDIVIDUAL REASONS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL'S  
EXPULSION, AND THAT EACH HAD PERFORMED SEPARATE ACTIONS OF  
INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CHAD. THE MINISTER  
ADDED THAT THE GOC WISHED TO CONTINUE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE  
UNITED STATES AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PREFER THAT THESE  
INDIVIDUALS LEAVE CHAD QUIETLY WITHOUT GENERAL NOTICE AND THAT  
THEY COULD BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY BY OTHERS. THE MINISTER  
CONTINUED, IN AN OBVIOUS THREAT, TO SAY THAT MISDEEDS OF THESE  
THREE INDIVIDUALS WERE RELATIVELY MINOR COMPARED TO SOME UNSPECIFIED  
MAJOR INTERFERENCE OF THE USG IN CHADIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
KAMOUGUE, IN THIS CASE ALSO, REFUSED TO DISCUSS WHAT SPECIFICALLY  
HE HAD IN MIND. HE RENEWED THREE OR FOUR TIMES THROUGHOUT  
THE CONVERSATION THE THREAT THAT, IF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WISHED  
TO TAKE PUBLIC ISSUE WITH THE DECISION OF THE GOC, OR IF IT WERE  
TO RETALIATE IN ANY MANNER THE GOC WOULD PRODUCE A CHADIAN WATERGATE  
OF VERY DAMAGING PROPORTIONS. AFTER TRYING REPEATEDLY TO ELICIT  
THE REASONS BEHIND GOC ACTION, KAMOUGUE WOULD PROMISE ONLY THAT  
HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GIVE ME SPECIFIC REASONS AT SOME LATER DATE.  
HE THEN HANDED TO ME A NOTE VERBALE OF FEBRUARY 28 WHICH STATED  
THAT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FINDS THE PRESENCE OF THREE  
ABOVE INDIVIDUALS AS UNDESIRABLE AND THAT THEY ARE TO LEAVE CHAD  
WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS.

3. IN CONCLUSION, I REITERATED MY PERSONAL CONVICTION THAT THE  
GOC HAD TAKEN A VERY SERIOUS STEP WHICH COULD NOT HELP BUT  
SERIOUSLY AFFECT BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.  
KAMOUGUE SAID THAT HE AS WELL REGRETTED THE NECESSITY TO TAKE THE  
ACTION BUT AGAIN REITERATED THE THREAT OF A "CHADIAN WATERGATE".  
I ASKED FOR A DELAY OF SEVERAL DAYS IN THE EXPULSION ORDER TO  
PERMIT THESE MEMBERS OF OUR OFFICIAL COMMUNITY TO DEPART IN  
GOOD ORDER. THE MINISTER REPLIED THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER A FORMAL  
REQUEST TO THAT EFFECT. I HAVE SUBMITTED A NOTE TO THE FOREIGN  
MINISTRY REQUESTING THE ACTION PROPOSED BY THE NOTE VERBALE  
OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BE POSTPONED UNTIL SATURDAY  
MARCH 6.

4. COMMENT: WE WILL COMMENT ON INDIVIDUAL EXPULSIONS IN SEPTTELS.  
IN ESSENCE, HOWEVER, I TEND TO ACCEPT KAMOUGUE'S COMMENT THAT  
UNSPECIFIED ACTION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL IS UNRELATED  
TO THOSE OF OTHERS, AND I AM FULLY CONVINCED THAT KAMOUGUE  
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PRESENTATION WAS MADE AT DEMAND OF RESIDENT MALLOUM AND PROBABLY  
WITH CONCURRENCE OF SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL. I AM NOT HOPEFUL  
THAT REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME WILL BE ALLOWED AND EMBASSY  
IS THEREFORE ATTEMPTING TO RESERVE SPACES ON MONDAY FLIGHT TO  
PARIS FOR INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED AND DEPENDENTS.

5. MY INITIAL REACTION IS THAT THIS GOC DECISION SHOULD BE PRO-  
TESTED STRONGLY AND DIRECTLY TO PRESIDENT MALLOUM. GUIDANCE

REQUESTED.DWYER

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